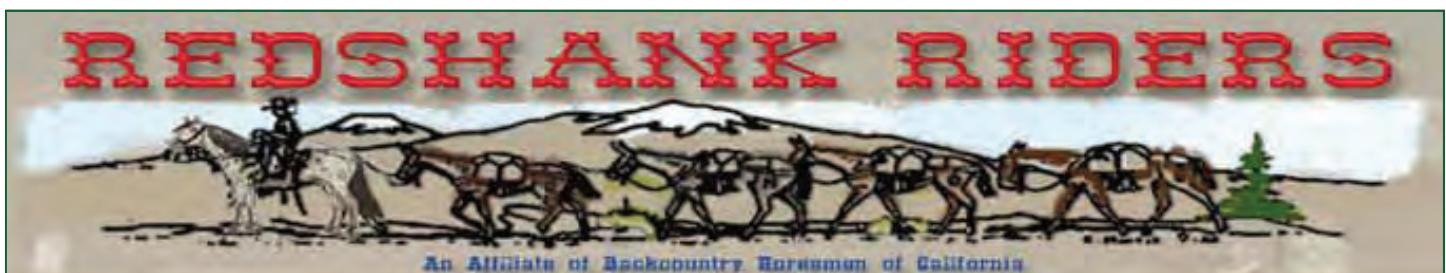


**REDSHANK RIDERS**



An Affiliate of Backcountry Horsemen of California  
[www.RedshankRiders.com](http://www.RedshankRiders.com)

A group of dedicated men and women working to preserve the historic use of trails with recreational pack and saddle stock.

<b>2011 Officers</b>	<b>Issue 8</b>	<b>AUGUST 2011</b>
<p><b>PRESIDENT / STATE REP</b>          Stacy Kuhns          (909) 633-1705          stacykuhns@aol.com</p> <p><b>VICE-PRESIDENT</b>          Audrey Turpin          (951) 852-1708          upacreekranch@netzero.net</p> <p><b>SECRETARY</b>          Anne York          (951) 662-2928          anne@starfiredesignstudio.com</p> <p><b>TREASURER</b>          Michael Lewis          (951) 760-9255          mike@stumblinranch.com</p> <p><b>NEWSLETTER EDITOR &amp; WEBMASTER</b>          Rhonda Strickland          (951) 951-522-8757          redshank.webmaster@gmail.com</p> <p><b>NEWSLETTER CO-EDITOR</b>          Stacy Kuhns</p> <p><b>EDUCATION CO-CHAIRS</b>          Allison Renck          (951) 763-0374          Ali9591@aol.com          Tom Firth          (951) 551-9711          lecile_hadley@hotmail.com</p> <p><b>PUBLIC LANDS</b>          Stacy Kuhns          (909) 633-1705          stacykuhns@aol.com</p> <p><b>TRAIL COMMITTEE</b>          Allison Renck          (951) 763-0374          Ali9591@aol.com</p> <p><b>MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR / HISTORIAN</b>          Carol Schmuhl          (951) 767-1061          Ifeedemandleadem@aol.com</p> <p><b>RIDE COMMITTEE</b>          Cathy Firth, Robyn Prinzing,          Sandi Korman, Teri Pirillo</p> <p><b>ADOPT A HIGHWAY</b>          Tim Turpin          (951) 852-1708          upacreekranch@netzero.net</p>	<p>Hi Guys</p> <p>Everyone has been busy riding those trusty steeds. There have been folks going into the Sierra Nevada's, Cowboy Races, Lots of Local Trails, Packing gear, using those horse step over gates and on and on. Keep having fun and ride smart. Help your horses be prepared for the trails. Make sure they are in condition for the ride, so you both will have a good time. We discussed and will use a description on our rides and ride levels. The ride descriptions are included in this newsletter. Please keep a copy handy.</p> <p>Ron Korman along with help from some of the ride committee, worked on helping us all get some clarity on the rides that we attend. All these items make sense, please read and if you have any questions on any of the following feel free to contact me.</p> <p>We are well into this year's riding season; a few things need to be clarified so that we are riding, safely and courteously.</p> <p><b>Ride Levels:</b> When a RSR ride is scheduled, the trail boss will describe the ride using the "Ride Level Description" included in this newsletter (page 9). This is for your safety and enjoyment of the ride. Clearly, you wouldn't sign up for a Level 5 ride if you AND your horse are not capable of handling the characteristics of the proposed ride. (Your riding companions will also commend you for going on rides that you and your horse can readily handle.)</p> <p><b>RSVP!</b> : This is important - not only does this give the trail boss information on who's coming; he/she can be a resource for information for you about the proposed ride. Additionally, the trail boss may have to secure trail permits and will need to know the number of potential riders. The trail boss needs to be able to contact you if bad weather calls for re-scheduling of a ride. If there is a fire on the mountain-he/she will advise you accordingly. Keep the trail boss informed, if your plans to ride change.</p> <p><b>Ride Out Time:</b> the trail boss will indicate the time the group will LEAVE the trailhead. If the ride-out time is shown as 9am, that means the group will be mounted and ready to start the ride at 9am. The group will not be "happy campers" if you are not ready then.</p> <p><b>Courteous riding:</b> maintain at least one horse distance from the horse in front of you. If your horse is prone to kick, attach a red ribbon to its tail. Stay on the trail-do not cut switchbacks. No smoking/ or drinking of alcoholic beverages while on the ride. Remember that hikers unfamiliar with horses may not know what to do. Inform them courteously. At the trailhead, pick up or scatter manure, especially if the area is paved. Leave no trace anywhere you ride-pack out all trash.</p> <p><b>Ride at the same pace as the other riders:</b> Don't "run up" on the horse in front of you. Please let the rider know if you need to pass on the left. When it is safe, do so at a walk.</p> <p><b>Bring water:</b> Dehydration occurs more rapidly at higher elevations. If the ride is going to be long and hot, consider bringing water for your horse.</p>	<p>(Continued on page 2)</p>

(Continued from page 1)

Remember, RSR trail rides are for RSR members (unless specifically stated that it is an "open" ride -the Poker Ride was an example of this exception). This rule comes from the state level of Backcountry Horsemen organization that provides our liability insurance. You will be asked by the trail boss to complete a "Release from Liability" form at EACH ride. Bottom line is these are guidelines to keep everyone safe. There had been mumbling regarding no alcohol while at our functions. This request is nothing new, folks. *We have never encouraged drinking while riding.* This is for liability and safety reasons. Unlike some riding groups we have liability insurance and a board of directors. We have never encouraged drinking and riding during our rides. *We (BCHC) do not supply alcohol at any time during any function, at a ride or meeting.* Once the ride is over, there have been a few adult beverages consumed, and that is not a problem because the event is over. There are lines on the road to keep everyone safe. Thanks for your understanding.

Why do we track volunteer hours??: (BCHC) requires that our unit submit our volunteer hours each year, which are then combined with all the other units in California to create a grand total of volunteer work performed on public lands by BCHC. These hours translate into a very large dollar value and give the State and National Backcountry Horsemen organizations the clout they need to negotiate with the various federal, state, and local agencies to establish and maintain access of horses, mules, and their owners (us!) to our public lands.

Word is out and it is official that Equine Affaire in Pomona will not be held in 2012. The event may return in 2013.

What is very exciting is the Rendezvous 2012 will be held again in Red Bluff. The extended dates March 28-April 1st. The dates are longer than we've done before mainly due to a reshuffling of the meetings which started Friday at noon. The meetings are now scheduled before the start date. Wednesday will be the executive meeting, Thursday AM will be the Public Lands and Education meetings and Friday AM will be the State Board of directors meeting. The past 2011 Rendezvous was very successful and well attended...vendors are already calling for space again.

National Public Lands Day is Saturday, Sep 24, 2011. Visit one of your national parks on National Public Lands Day and you won't be charged an entrance fee. Go to

[www.nps.gov/findapark/feefreeparks.htm](http://www.nps.gov/findapark/feefreeparks.htm) for more information.

We had a speaker at the last meeting, Janet Worts. She discussed the Bucksnort Endurance ride in November in Chihuahua Valley she is putting on and shared information on the ride and requested help.

We have one more gate to install on Tule Peak and we also discussed the need to install one also on the trail head on the North side of Cahuilla Mountain. Speaking of Cahuilla, there was a huge raid and a lot of plants were seized on Thursday July 28. With that being said, be smart and alert when you ride. We all enjoy riding in the out of the way areas and this can also be areas that there is illegal activity so ride smart and pay attention. Audrey and I have tripped upon places where we needed to quickly get out of the area. No need to get shot!!

Bob Jones did a presentation on the BLM at the last meeting and showed all the items they donated to our unit. It was awesome. (see photos pg 8). The guys have been busy this year helping get the gear into the backcountry for the work crews. (see upcoming dates pg 7). The guys were very excited after the unveiling. Good job!!!

We had a great meeting at Laurie Stanton's place in July. She really stepped up and put on a great spread. It was a good time. Thanks Laurie.

The August monthly meeting we will be combining with the ride. It will be Sunday the 21<sup>st</sup>. Anne York will be hosting the ride. The general meeting will be after the ride. Please refer to the flyer in the newsletter (see pg 4)

Life's short, ride often!!! It'll keep ya sane.

Cya on the trails, Stacy

## Redshank Riders July 14, 2011

### Meeting Minutes

**Location:** Laurie Stanton's, Anza

Meeting began at 7:20 pm

26 Attendees/ 6 guests: Ed Fries, Bill & Cathy BenceLora Lowrie, Susan Eyer Anderson, Janet Worts

**Treasurers Report:** Mike reported that there was a profit of \$195. Ending balance \$6364.53

**Membership Report:** 133 individual, 37 family, 7 associate

**Trail Development & Maintenance:** Two new gates have been installed that are much less intrusive.

**Adopt a Highway:** June 4th was a big success. We need to schedule another for October.

**Public Lands:** Stacy explained why we track hours. These hours are translated into a large dollar value by BCHC to maintain access to our public lands. It's very important to get your hours in to Ron.

**Education:** Event with San Gorgonio will possibly change venue and not be held at the Pumpkin Patch.

**Newsletter:** Add space available For \$50/yr. Name that newsletter contest submissions:

Chuck: "*The Redshank Tribune*"

Robyn: "*Redshank Rider Review*"

Bob: "*Tails of the Trail*"

**Historian:** Carol needs photos to be submitted preferably on a CD

### Unfinished Business:

- ⇒ Still looking for a trailer to store our supplies. A 4 horse size utility trailer would be preferred. Inventory needs to be taken by Audrey. Please let her know if you have anything belonging to the club in your possession.

**Rides:** Ron Reported that there were 15 signed up for the Strawberry Junction Ride on the 17th Stacy passed out ride ranking rules that we will use to describe the difficulty of future rides. We adopted it as is.

**New Business:** Equine Affaire will not be held in 2012. Rendezvous 2012 will be Red Bluff from March 28 - April 1. (See prez message)

Mike proposed that we form a Packers Association for training and education and asked if it could be part of our RSR organization. Anne motioned that we form a committee, Gil 2nd. Gil announced the upcoming event "Dining With the Stallions" The next general meeting will be held on August 21st and be a combination ride & meeting hosted by Anne. Time & details TBA.

Janet Worts was our speaker and told us about her upcoming endurance ride to be held in Chihuahua Valley Nov 5th. She is looking for volunteers. She thanked Bob for paving the way for her with the BLM to get her ride permitted. Greg announced that mounted shooting is held at the Lions Club Arena the 2nd Saturday of each month at 10:00 am. The cost is \$20.

Bob announced that BLM has donated tools to our club, including McClouds & Polaskis. Also includes 3 sets of packing equipment. All together it's about \$2500 worth of equipment. We would like to get our emblem on the packing equipment.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:20 pm



Unit Meeting/Ride  
Sunday, August 21st  
Sponsored by Anne York  
See Page 4 for flier



**Business Card Ad**  
your ad will appear in every  
Redshank Rider Newsletter  
& the website for one year.  
contact Anne: [anne@starfireshadowdesign.com](mailto:anne@starfireshadowdesign.com) for more info

**\$50 for 1 Year**

# REDSHANK RIDERS



# August Meeting!

**Ride - 10 am**

*Medium/difficult ride - steep hills & some technical spots*

*3.5 hrs with water/rest stop*

**General Meeting - 2 pm**

**53300 Cave Rock Road  
Anza, CA**

**Directions:**

North on Cary Rd off of 371, approx .5 mi go right on Cave Rock Rd.,

Look for the red barn on the left about .25 mi

**contact Anne  
951-662-2928**

**[anne@starfireshadowdesign.com](mailto:anne@starfireshadowdesign.com)**

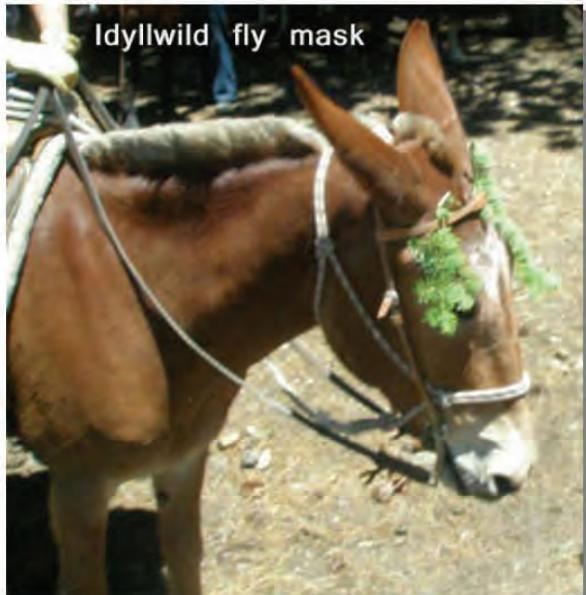
**TO CONFIRM YOU ARE COMING**

**LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL THERE!!!**

## Strawberry Junction Ride

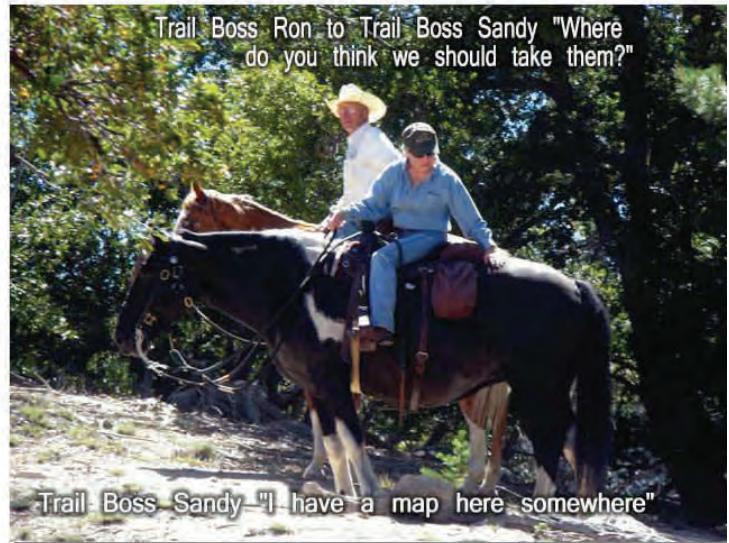
By: Ron Korman ~ Photos from Robyn Prinzing

On Sunday, July 17, ten stalwart Redshank Riders found their way to the Idyllwild Nature Center parking lot, across Hwy 243 from the bottom of the Deer Springs Trail. We were on the trail very close to the scheduled 9AM ride-out time. The first of two rattlesnakes didn't seem to be a problem for anyone, but the second one exuded "evil karma", and Sandy's mare broke the "stay on the trail" rule by side-passing 12 feet up the side of the mountain.



We enjoyed fabulous views of Tahquitz Peak and Lily Rock; at the junction of the trail to Suicide Rock, we turned left onto the Strawberry Junction Trail, or as someone described it "the UP, UP, UP" trail. We stopped for lunch where this trail joins the Pacific Crest Trail, broke into discussion groups to solve all the problems of the world, then got on the "DOWN, DOWN, DOWN" trail (same one as above). Now we started meeting upward-bound hikers who responded well to our instructions about making their presence known around the horses.

We started with 10, and ended up with 10 - that's a good thing!



## Crosscut Saw Training Course

By: Michael Lewis, Aguanga, CA.

In the middle of May this year, myself and four others from the Redshank Riders unit of the Backcountry Horsemen of California, along with three others, got the rare opportunity to attend a forest service crosscut saw certification course held by PCTA volunteer Kim Owen in Idyllwild, CA. This class was made possible through the hard work and



perseverance of Associate Regional PCTA Representative Sam Commarto with help from Rep Greg Baxter. At first I thought it would fun to learn to cut timber the way it was done a century ago, but after a few minutes in class I realized it's much more than just learning to cut a log. It involved safety, situational awareness, communication, handling members of a team, along with analyzing the best way to remove an obstacle (tree) from across a trail, what it would do when



Kim split us into two groups of four, Sam with one group and Kim with the other. I ended up with Kim's group and approaching the first log he looked at me and said, "Tell me how you would approach this situation". This set me back a moment and when my brain began to function once more I did look around and asses the tree and it's surroundings, safety, obstacles, jobs for the crew, and finally how best to make the cut with consideration of what the tree would do when cut. I didn't fail to badly this first time and over the next day and a half it became easier and more natural.

Cont'd on next page



Tim Turpin, Kim Owen, Don Salazar, Bob Jones, Michael Lewis & Pete Spencer

the time and effort it took Kim to travel all the way down from Washington to our neck of the woods to teach this class. As a packer, I see this as an opportunity to do more than just move tools and supplies, but also help clear trails for others. Most of what we ride down here is wilderness so this is the only option to clear tree's from our trails. I also look forward to the day that I may be able to teach what I learn to others. Thanks again to Kim Owen; I hope we cross paths again in the future. Thanks also to Sam Commarto and Greg Baxter for all their help.



## To all Redshank members,

Below are the latest dates for the Mt San Jacinto State Park/CCC project at Fuller Ridge. If you are interested in going along on one of these dates contact Greg Baxter or myself.

Here's keeping your "Loads balanced and your lash ropes tight".

Michael Lewis  
Stumblin\_L Ranch  
[mike@stumblinranch.com](mailto:mike@stumblinranch.com)  
[951 760-9255](tel:9517609255)

Re-supply dates – if you are available to help with those:

7/19, 8/2, 8/16, 8/30, 9/13, 9/27, 10/11, 10/24  
- 10/26 (pack out)

We learned about top bind, bottom bind, side bind, end bind, and root bind, along with compression, tension, widow makers, and escape routes. Through it all Kim was helpful, understanding, and saw potential in us all. In the end we all got our "A" or "B" certification and appreciate

Thanks again everyone and we'll talk soon!

Greg Baxter  
Associate Regional Representative  
Pacific Crest Trail Association  
Southern California  
[651-491-3938](tel:6514913938)

The mission of the Pacific Crest Trail Association is to protect, preserve, and promote the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail as an internationally significant resource for the enjoyment of hikers and equestrians, and for the value that wild and scenic lands provide to all people.

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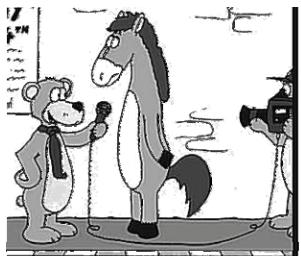
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Greg Bruce

# THE NEWS ROOM

## Read, Discuss, Act



### Hat Creek Mounted Shooters

Howdy Folks,

Would you enjoy learning to become a mounted shooter? Then check this out: The group will be meeting the second Saturday of each month at 10am at the Lions club arena off Kirby in Anza . The next shoot will be August 13th.

The guns being used are a single action handgun in 45 long colt caliber. The supply the ammunition for safety reasons. The ammunition is a black powder blank. They are charging only what it costs us to produce the ammunition. Please come and watch. And join us if you can.



Contact Greg Bruce for more info at [951-514-9999](tel:951-514-9999) - Thanks Greg

(Not affiliated with BCHC)

The BLM has donated tools to our club, including McClouds & Polaskis. Also includes 3 sets of packing equipment.



# RIDE LEVEL DESCRIPTION

**Level I:** Good for inexperienced riders/ horses. The terrain will be relatively level with no obstacles. Good exercise for out of shape horses and becoming familiar with riding in a group. Easy pace.

**Level II:** This level will also be recommended for inexperienced rider and green horses. The terrain will be more demanding than level I with a few obstacles which can be easily crossed. Pace will be easy.

**Level III:** This level is not recommended for the inexperienced rider/ green horses or out of shape horses. The terrain will be challenging and the pace quicker than level I-II. The obstacles will not be suited for green horses. However the average rider and horse will have no problem with this level.

**Level IV:** This level will be more suited for the advanced rider and horse. The terrain will be moderate to difficult at times. The obstacles will be safe for the **calm** experienced horse and rider only. Your horse will have to be in good physical shape and should be shod.

**Level V:** This level would be considered advanced for horse/ rider. The terrain will be moderate to difficult. The obstacles will be considered **hazardous** with an out of control horse. The pace will be steady, long and demanding at times. Your horse **must** be in top condition and be shod.

## Tentative Event & Ride Schedule 2011

Aug 11 - Unit Meeting

Aug 12 - RCHA Moonlight ride at Vail Lake - (see  
[www.rchatemecula.org](http://www.rchatemecula.org) for info)

Aug 21 - RSR Ride & Meeting at Anne Yorks (see pg 8)

Sept 17 - BCHC - SGPU Treasure Hunt

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RedShank Riders



# Redshank Riders Unit Meeting / Ride ~ Sunday, Aug 21 ~

**See pg 4**

